

Claims

I claim:

Sub A1  
1 1. A peptide composition comprising an arginyl-glutamine dipeptide formulated as  
2 a nutrient formulation, wherein the arginine residue is the amino terminus of said dipeptide  
3 and the glutamine residue is the carboxy terminus of said dipeptide.

1 2. The peptide composition, according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is  
2 suitable for enteral administration.

1 3. The peptide composition, according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is  
2 suitable for parenteral administration.

1 4. The peptide composition, according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of said  
2 dipeptide is from about 0.1% to about 25.0% by weight of said formulation.

1 5. The peptide composition, according to claim 1, wherein said nutrient formulation  
2 comprises an additive selected from the group consisting of vitamins, minerals, trace  
3 elements, fats, monosaccharides and oligosaccharides.

1 6. The peptide composition, according to claim 5, wherein said monosaccharide is  
2 glucose.

1 7. A method for promoting healthy muscle tissue in a human or animal, said method  
2 comprising administering to a human or animal in need of such treatment an effective  
3 amount of a dipeptide composition comprising an arginyl-glutamine dipeptide formulated  
4 as a nutrient formulation, wherein the arginine residue is the amino terminus of said  
5 dipeptide and the glutamine residue is the carboxy terminus of said dipeptide.

1 8. The method, according to claim 7, wherein said human or animal has undergone,  
2 is undergoing, or will undergo physical exertion or training.

1 9. The method, according to claim 7, wherein said human or animal is in need of  
2 maintenance of muscle mass.

1 10. The method, according to claim 9, wherein said human or animal is hospitalized.

1 11. The method, according to claim 10, wherein said hospitalized human or animal  
2 is a neonate.

1 12. The method, according to claim 9, wherein said human or animal is subjected  
2 to an environment of decreased gravity relative to gravity on earth.

1 13. A method for promoting increased immunity to pathogens in a human or animal,  
2 said method comprising administering to a human or animal in need of such treatment an  
3 effective amount of a dipeptide composition comprising an arginyl-glutamine dipeptide  
4 formulated as a nutrient formulation, wherein the arginine residue is the amino terminus of  
5 said dipeptide and the glutamine residue is the carboxy terminus of said dipeptide.

1 14. The method, according to claim 13, wherein said human or animal is at risk for  
2 infection by a pathogen.

1 15. The method, according to claim 14, wherein said pathogen is selected from the  
2 group consisting of bacteria, viruses and parasites.

1 16. The method, according to claim 13, wherein said human or animal is an  
2 employee, worker or patient in a hospital or medical facility.

1 17. The method, according to claim 13, wherein said immunity is mucosal immunity.

1 18. The method, according to claim 17, wherein said mucosal immunity comprises  
2 an IgA response to said pathogen.

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